REMARKS

In order to expedite allowance Applicant has elected to modify the independent claims to include additional elements of Applicant's invention. For example, Applicant has included limitations for a tracking module that comprises a file system driver that monitors write operations to a hierarchically indexed data store, limitations that indicate the use of in-memory block maps that are swapped between the tracking module and a replication module, and limitations for asynchronously communicating change data in an order that is different than the order in which the changes occur on the hierarchically indexed data store. Support for the amendments is found in various locations in the specification including the paragraphs beginning at page 7 line 18, page 8 line 9, page 12 line 26, page 13 lines 6 and 14, and page 15 line 23. Applicant notes that the combination of elements delineated in the independent claims provide superior results over previous snapshot solutions. Applicant respectfully asserts that the amended claims are in condition for prompt allowance. Should additional information or evidence be required, the Examiner is respectfully asked to notify Applicants of such need. If any impediments to the prompt allowance of the claims can be resolved by a telephone conversation, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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